

THE PERU PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD MINUTES

Thursday, March 23, 2017

The Board Meeting was called to order by Vice President Alison Paul at 6:30pm. Present at the meeting were Sharon Edwards, Bryan Maggart, Ron Shuckel, Leslie Murphy. Michael Steele and Anna Jo McKaig were unable to attend. Director Maryann Farnham was also present.

One correction was made to the minutes changing the word "trusteed" to "trustees" and the minutes were approved unanimously. Motion was moved by Bryan Maggart and seconded by Sharon Edwards. Motion carried.

Reading of the Financial Statement and Claims; Maryann Farnham explained that she had figured out how to make the current month work for our reports and that we should now have monthly statements and not combined statements. Maryann also explained that due to having several beginning of the year purchases we are a little over budget but everything should balance out by the end of the year. A motion to approve was brought by Ron Shuckel and seconded by Leslie Murphy. Motion carried.

The Director's Report was presented by Maryann Farnham and she welcomed Jay Albright from Northern Indiana Community Foundation. Jay took time to go over the amount of dollars that had been given back to our community and proceeded to give us detailed information about our current investments with NICF. He then presented us with a check in the amount of \$7256.00; he also told us that NICF has now changed their grant application period to an "open" cycle. Which now gives entities the opportunity to apply for grants when they are needed rather than waiting for the original date which was always in October of each calendar year. The board thanked Jay and NICF for delivering our check in person and that we are very excited to see how well our investments are being handled.

Next, Sandy Chittum from the Miami County Council came to speak with us about her willingness to be a liaison between us (The Board of Trustees) and them (The County Council). She began to explain to us that she would like to help bridge the gap and see if we could come to an agreement to bring the county residence back to the library. The board had a lot of discussion with Sandy and each other stating

that we have the city tax payers contributing over \$300,000.00 a year and that a small contract or dollar amount from the county was not going to be possible. We were also told that if we presented a presentation to MCEDA (Miami County Economic Development) there could be a chance we could receive CREDIT Funds. The director asked several questions on what, how and where we would present this information to have a chance to receive these funds. Lastly, the board thanked Sandy for coming and speaking to us and we welcomed her to continue to come and sit in our meetings to hear what it is that Library does and to be able to give a report back to the County Council. The board decided we would talk more about what our next steps would be with the Miami County Council and MCEDA.

Maryann then talked about the ILF Conference would be hosted at our facility and we would be closed that day Friday, May 5th. Maryann and Staff are very excited about hosting; many of our staff members are on board with working and helping visitors during their time in our building.

During the Director's Report we also talked about the Lighting issue outside and that we need to have J&J Electric come and checkout what is going on with the lighting. Also we talked about the flooring situation and it was stated that Bryan and Leslie would be meeting with the CDI about the flooring on Friday, March 24th. We are hoping to get this resolved or we as a board would be taking next steps to speak with legal counsel about what we could do.

OLD BUSINESS:

Non-Resident Fee was discussed and signed after being the resolution was brought to the floor in the February Meeting. Board Members signed the resolution for Director Maryann Farnham to submit to the State Library Board.

NEW BUSINESS:

Discussion was made as the letter and resignation of Michael Steele. The board read his letter and accepted his resignation. Maryann Farnham stated that she

had someone in mind that she would like to bring before the City Council for the appointment of Mr. Steele's vacant position.

The board discussed the option to seek new legal counsel. Elizabeth Price was mentioned as our new counsel. Maryann discussed that she would reach out to her to see if she would be open to serving our organization.

We then looked over the updates to the By-laws and would be making a vote to change them at our next scheduled meeting.

Finally Member Bryan Maggart discussed with the board that he would be meeting with the flooring company the next day to discuss the chance of having flooring issues addressed. He and Leslie Murphy have been working feverishly with the flooring company to come to a solution.

With no other business to discuss the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,

Bryan Maggart

Board Member